

SAFETY ON THE LINE

A service of the NASA KSC Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate

December 1998 vol. 98/7

".... I always watch out for the other drivers, especially during the holidays. So should you!"

Quote attributed to Santa Claus

KSC's #1 Goal

Did you know that **KSC's # 1 goal is to "assure that safe, sound, and efficient practices are in place for privatized/commercial launch site processing?"**

There are many safety initiatives in place that will help us reach this goal. Some of these are:

- Implementing an upgraded safety philosophy to improve the culture to one where line management understands and accepts full responsibility for the safety of their employees, facilities, and operations. This culture shift makes each supervisor responsible for their own safety and the safety of their employees
- "Safety First" is emphasized by opening Center staff meetings with a **"Safety Message of the Day"**, a practice encouraged at all levels on the Center.
- To foster a proactive approach to health and safety issues at KSC, quarterly reviews are held with senior management staff and major contractors to discuss the status of safety and occupational health at the Center and resolve concerns.

Safety is something
that you can always
bank on!



ELSA UPDATE

In January, OSHA published a new final rule for Respiratory Protection. Because of that rule, ELSA training will be conducted annually only for badged employees for areas that are protected by ELSA's. Over the next year, you will be scheduled for formal ELSA training in course QG07CKSC. In the interim, this informal information is provided about the use of the ELSA's. The ELSA is a NIOSH approved escape-only respirator with service times of 5, 7, or 10 minutes that provides protection against oxygen deficiency and toxic vapors that may be released at a variety of work sites. The ELSA units have been pre-positioned in these work areas, located in the familiar green and white striped boxes. **It may not be used for rescue or entry into a contaminated environment.**

In an emergency, you should remove the ELSA unit from the container by breaking the integrity seal, place the carrying strap of the unit around your neck so the operating valve is positioned to your right. Open the Velcro pouch to release the clear plastic hood and hose. Turn the operating valve one full turn counter-clock-wise. Then expand the hood and place it over your head so that the elastic hood closure seals around your neck. The inlet hose and diffuser must be positioned in front of your mouth. **Then evacuate the area immediately.**

The ELSA will provide a continuous flow of air which can be overwhelmed if you are performing heavy activity such as running. If that happens, the hood will fog, and outside air may be drawn into the hood. Limit your activity to regain a positive airflow. When you get to a safe location remove the hood and shut off the operating valve. **Do not attempt to re-package the unit.** Questions should be addressed to:

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Questions or comment? Or do you have an article you would like to submit? Contact Marguerite or Alan at 867-3311, fax number 867-3583, mail code EI-HF or e-mail them at "Safety on the Line" found in your global address list. Safety on the Line is also on the Web. Go to the KSC home page, then click on KSC internal page, then find us under NASA/KSC news.